(b) and (c) LPG bottling plants are set up on the basis of techno-economic feasibility after taking into consideration the demand potential of packed LPG in the area. OMCs have planned to set up new bottling plants in the State under 10th Plan at the locations namely Visakh, Rajahmundry and Vijayawada in addition to augmentation of bottling capacity at existing plants to meet the future demand of the State.

New survey in Gujarat off-shore

4346. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new survey in South Gujarat off-shore has shown existence of far more gas reserves than it was estimated earlier;

(b) if so, the details of old survey and that of the new one; and

(c) by when gas is likely to be extracted there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Exploration and development work by private/ joint venture companies in the various off-shore areas of South Gujarat have resulted in augmentation of reserves in Hazira field, which has been found to be extending to off-shore areas. Further, 5 oil and /or gas discoveries in CB-OS-2 block and oil discovery in CB-OS-1 block have resulted in augmentation of reserve base which is to be precisely estimated.

(b) At the end of the 8th Plan, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) had acquired 58357 Lino Kilometres (LK) of 2D and 28907 LK of 3D seismic data in South Gujarat off-shore area, covering the Tapti-Daman sector of Mumbai off-shore, Gulf of Kambhat and Saurashtra off-shore.

During the 9th Plan, till 31.03.2002, an additional 2180 LK of 2D and 95378 LK of 3D seismic data were acquired in this area by ONGC. Also, in the CB-OS-2 block, 3137 LK of 2D seismic data and 344 sq. km. of 3D seismic data have been acquired.

(c) Gas is already being produced from Hazira field. Production from Lakshmi Gas- Field is likely to commence by August, 2002. Plans for production from other discoveries will be firmed up after appraising these discoveries.

NOTE : Sq. km. = Square Kilometre; 2D = Two Dimensional; 3D = Three Dimensional